

From Asst. Sec. Defense Sylvester -- 11/2/62 to Lee Hill, President

A. S. & E, Miami, Florida and others --

As a man who has devoted more than 35 years of my life to both reporting and editing the news, I am sensitive to the peoples' right to factual information about their government. But as a public official, I am also aware that in a time of extreme national peril there are other considerations in addition to the news business.

Contrary to some of the editorials and columnists I have read there has been no distortion, no deception and no manipulation of the news released by the Defense Department during the Cuban crisis.

We have, of course, protected national security and the lives of the military personnel directly involved in the current crisis. This is our primary concern in releasing the news.